Amendments to the Specification are as follows:

Before the first sentence on page 1 please insert the following paragraph.

This application is the national stage International Application No. PCT/2003/016478 filed on December 22, 2003, which claims the benefit of priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-378406 filed on December 26, 2002, both of which are herein incorporated by reference.

Please amend page 15, line 19 as follows:

Detailed Description~~Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention~~

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 19, line 10 and ending on page 20, line 3 as follows:

The evaluation parameter A represents a level regarding possibility of authorization. The evaluation parameters B1 and B2 represent levels regarding the scope of a right, wherein the evaluation parameter B1 represents a level according to the applicable portion of an invention, and the evaluation parameter B2 represents a level according to the difficulty of avoidance. The evaluation parameters C1 and C2 represent levels regarding technical advantages, wherein the evaluation parameter C1 represents a level according to performance, and the evaluation parameter C2 represents a level according to manufacturing costs. The evaluation parameters D1 and D2 represent levels regarding possibility of manufactured products, wherein the evaluation parameter D1 represents a level according to possibility of right-to-implementation by the own<u>er</u> company, and the evaluation parameter D2 represents a level according to possibility of right-to-implementation by <u>an</u>other company. The evaluation parameter E represents a level according to easiness of infringement detection.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 38, line 14 and ending on page 39, line 3 as follows:

In Step S118, a variable "XA" is set to the value of the evaluation parameter A of the possibility of authorization of the relevant intellectual property. Subsequently, the flow proceeds to Step S112 in Fig. 9 in the event

that the variable "XA" is 10, and on the other hand, the flow proceeds to Step S112 in the event that the variable "XA" is not 10 (Step S119). Here, the possibility of authorization of the relevant intellectual property is not sufficient in the event that the variable "XA" is not 10, so a fee is calculated in light of amendment in the future. As this calculation proceeds,~~processing,~~ involvement/noninvolvement of an attorney is determined in Step S120, and an amendment fee as to the attorney is added to the variable "HIYOU" in the event of involvement of the attorney (Step S121).